

Illinois National Guard Military Youth Program & Education Outreach



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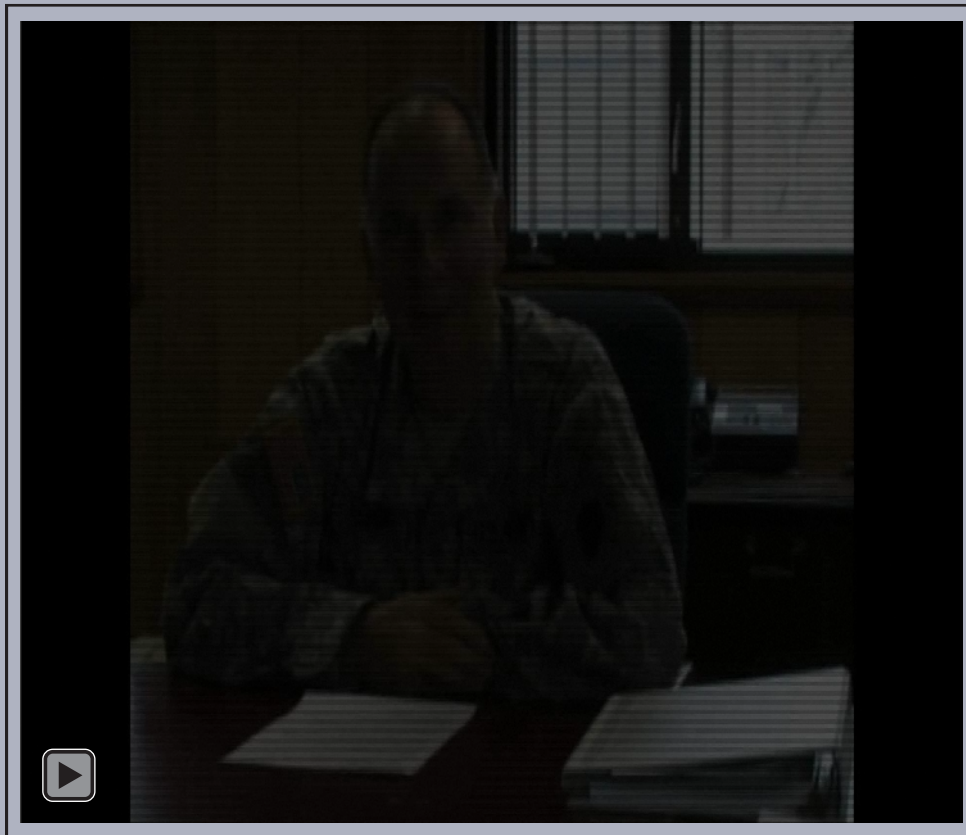
Education Outreach Program Meeting Flow



- Welcome to attendees
- Introduction of volunteer(s)
- Introduction of Education Outreach Officer and/or Coordinator
- Presentation follows
- Q & A

Maj. Gen. William L. Enyart

The Adjutant General, Illinois National Guard



National & Illinois Statistics (DoD)



- Approximately 2 million military children across the nation have experienced a parental deployment at least once since 2001.
- There are a reported 31,600 children of military service members in Illinois. (0-18 years old)



**“Significant research surrounding the psychosocial effects of deployment on military children concludes that multiple deployments have effects on school performance and behavior.”
(DoDEA)**

That’s why we’re here!

Julianne Steinbeigle

Director of Psychological Health, Illinois National Guard



Phases of Deployment



Pre-Deployment

- Parent is notified approximately 6-18 months prior to departure.
- Parent is required to attend additional training and/or military schools from 2-21 days each until mobilization occurs, typically over a weekend.
- Parent prepares paperwork to care for themselves and family.

Mobilization

- Parent leaves home for a mobilization station to prepare for their mission for 30-60 days.
- Training days are typically 12-18 hours long and parent may have little time to contact the Family (training includes medical checks, financial and legal assistance and mission training).
- Additional documents completed to take care of parent and family members.
- Commanders work to accommodate communications with the families before departure.

Phases of Deployment



Deployment

- Parent travels to their mission site and remains for 6-12 months.
- Upon arrival, parent will be very busy learning specifics about the area they are working. It may take 14-21 days before contact is made with their family members.
- Parent will have access to mail (free from overseas) and phone banks; Internet is not guaranteed and if provided, will more than likely not be free.

Post-mobilization

- Parent does not know when they are absolutely coming home until they are on the plane the plane.
- Parent will return to mobilization station to out-process and (typically) return to home station/unit within 5-10 days from arriving stateside.
- Parent and Family (if they choose), will attend Reintegration/ Reception training at the 30- and 60-day mark. This training assists the parent and family members with readjustment to family life, completes medical/mental health checks and financial and education assistance.

National Guard & Reserve Culture



National Guard

- Troops respond to domestic emergencies, combat missions, counter-dug efforts, reconstruction missions and more. This may include community efforts, such as responding to wildfires or floods. Or, it may include serving overseas. Whether the call is coming from the state governor or directly from the President of the United States, Guard Soldiers are always ready and always there. Guardsmen include Army and Air Force. Their direct leadership falls under the Governor.

Reservists

- Service members with the same Federal mission as the Guard. Reservists encompass all services. Their direct leadership falls underneath the President.

Reserve Component

- Term used to describe Guardsmen and Reservists at all levels to discern from Active Duty.

Signs of Stress Reactions in Youth



- **Unfocused agitation or hysteria**
- **Disconnection from peers and adults**
- **Serious depression or withdrawal**
- **Auditory or visual hallucinations**
- **Any prolonged major change from normal functioning that continues six weeks after deployment**

Suggested Intervention Strategies



- Engage in play activities
- Paint or draw pictures reflecting feelings or thoughts
- Write in a journal
- Write cards or letters to the deployed family member
- Make a memory book or calendar
- Take part in individual and group counseling when problems arise

Assisting Educators



- Obtain an accurate count of military youth
- Provide educators the tools to apply for DoDEA or other governmental grants
- Assist educators in identifying the needs of military youth coping with the deployment of a parent
- Team school counselors with qualified Military Family Life Consultants who specialize in working with military children
- Offering free online tutoring for military children whose parents are on active-duty orders
- Offering free Continuing Education Classes for educators in various disciplines

DoD Initiatives to Support Schools



Less than 10% of military children nationwide attend DOD schools, making it essential for the DOD to support public schools.

- **In 2009, \$56 million was awarded to military-connected public schools. For the 2010 grant year, more than \$38 million was awarded**

- **DOD Impact Aid**

- **DoDEA's Educational Partnerships**

DoD Impact Aid



Applies to Federally Connected Children:

- Child resides on federal property, Indian lands, or eligible low-rent housing (LRH)
- Parent is in uniform or works on federal property, Indian lands or low-rent housing

Eligibility based on:

- Number of eligible federally connected children equal to at least 3% of total number of students OR
- Number of eligible federally connected children in average daily attendance (ADA) equal to at least 400
- Child(ren) of Active Duty or Activated/Deployed Reserve Component personnel

Allowable expenditures:

- Salaries
- Textbooks, computers, and instructional materials
- Special programs, such as after-school, remedial & advanced placement
- Construction

1,320 applicants (nationally) for FY 2010

DoDEA Educational Partnership Programs



- **Resources for students and educators at the center**
- **Grants dependent on the number of military students at your school (regardless of branch/affiliation). Grants range from \$100K to \$2.5M based on the amount of military students enrolled on a daily basis**
 - Pilot program began in 2008
 - First school in Illinois received funding in 2010
 - North Chicago Community Unit School District's grant project serves two military-connected schools, Forrestal Elementary and Neal Math-Science Academy. -School districts use iPad technology to improve mathematics achievement and to connect children with school work, trusted adults, and their peers
- **Psychological information, special needs students**
- **www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/index.cfm**

Psychological Health & Family Assistance Programs



- The military has developed comprehensive programs that provide concrete services and referrals to support the social, emotional, and academic needs of family members and their children. Some of the programs intersect directly with public schools.
- **Programs Available to Military Youth:**
 - Military OneSource – www.militaryonesource.com
 - Military Family Life Consultants
 - Military Family Assistance Programs
 - Joint Family Support Assistance Program
 - Operation Military Kids – www.operationmilitarykids.com
 - “Operation Purple” Summer and Day Camps
 - Hero Packs
 - Mobile Technology Labs
 - Speak Out for Military Kids
 - Ready, Set, Go
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) activities at DoD Starbase Program (Northern IL)

What' Next for Your School(s)



- **Identify veterans, reserve component service members or military spouses in your schools - they can internally champion military issues**
- **Identify children of service members in your school and/or district**
- **Explore grant requirements/applications**
- **Share information during school trainings**
- **Attend Military Child Education Coalition classes and other training opportunities**
- **Request a presentation from us for faculty team**

Bottom Line – we are here for you!



**If you have questions or concerns about a student or program,
please call on us.**

**Eric M. Murray
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Family Support Services Branch
Illinois National Guard
Office: (217) 761-3413**